

What is claimed is:

5 1. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a common program guide information producing section which produces self-produced common program guide information.

10 2. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a program guide information output section which unites said self-produced common program guide information with other broadcaster's common program guide information, and outputs the united common program guide information.

15 3. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a common program guide information storing section which stores common program guide information corresponding to a designated time duration in advance, said common program guide information being received from a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus or other broadcaster.

20 4. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, further comprising a common program guide information storing section which stores the other broadcaster's common program guide information corresponding to a designated time duration in advance.

25 5. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a

self-produced information transmitting section which transmits only the information relating to broadcast time of programs to a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus.

5 6. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a version number adding section which adds a version number to common program guide information received from a program guide information
10 collecting/transmitting apparatus or other broadcaster.

7. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, further comprising a version number adding section which adds a version number to said self-produced common program guide information and
15 also to said other broadcaster's common program guide information.

8. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a self-produced information stepwise transmitting section which transmits control information prior to other information when renewed self-produced information is sent to a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus, said control information being used for audio/video recording preservation in a
20 broadcast receiver.

25 9. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a self-produced information stepwise transmitting section which transmits control information prior to other information when renewed self-produced information is sent to a program guide information
30 collecting/transmitting apparatus, said control information being used for audio/video recording preservation in a broadcast receiver.

10. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 8, wherein said self-produced information stepwise transmitting section transmits only the control information relating to a presently broadcasted program to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus prior to others among said control information relating to the audio/video recording preservation in the broadcast receiver.

11. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising a self-produced information checking section which obtains and checks self-produced information stored in a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus after said self-produced information is transmitted to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus.

12. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a self-produced information checking section which obtains and checks said self-produced common program guide information stored in a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus after said self-produced common program guide information is transmitted to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus.

13. A program guide information collecting/transmitting system including a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus for transmitting program guide information to other broadcasters, wherein

each broadcaster generates self-produced common program guide information and transmits the self-produced common program guide information to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus,

said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus transmits the received self-produced common program guide information of said each

broadcaster to other broadcasters, and

said other broadcasters receive the transmitted self-produced common program guide information of said each broadcaster as common program guide information produced by a different broadcaster.

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14. The program guide information collecting/transmitting system in accordance with claim 13, wherein said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus comprises a common program guide information storing section which administrates the self-produced common program guide information transmitted from said each broadcaster.

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15. The program guide information collecting/transmitting system in accordance with claim 14, wherein

said each broadcaster transmits the self-produced common program guide information corresponding to a designated time duration to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus, and

said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus causes said common program guide information storing section to store the received self-produced common program guide information transmitted from said each broadcaster during said designated time duration.

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16. A program guide information producing apparatus for outputting self-produced program guide information and other broadcaster's program guide information, said program guide information producing apparatus comprising:

an inter-station self-produced information transmitting section which directly transmits self-produced information to other broadcaster; and

an inter-station common program guide information receiving section which directly receives common program guide information from other broadcasters.

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17. The program guide information producing in accordance with claim

1, further comprising:

an inter-station self-produced information transmitting section which directly transmits said self-produced common program guide information; and

an inter-station common program guide information receiving section which directly receives said other broadcaster's common program guide information from said other broadcaster.

18. The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, wherein said self-produced information stepwise transmitting section transmits only the control information relating to a presently broadcasted program to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus prior to others among said control information relating to the audio/video recording preservation in the broadcast receiver.